

CLAIMS

1. A method of setting a lancing member to a lancing device,
the method comprising:

5 a first step for causing a lancing member formed integral
with a cap covering a needle to be held by a holder of a lancing
device; and

 a second step for breaking a boundary between the cap
and the lancing member by rotating the lancing member relative
10 to the cap utilizing a rotating means prearranged at the lancing
device, the second step performed during or after the first
step.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a third
15 step for exposing the needle by detaching the cap from the
lancing member after the second step.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the lancing device
comprises a housing including a tip end formed with an opening,
20 the holder being reciprocally movable in the housing, and

 wherein the rotating means comprises a cam mechanism
for rotating the holder and the lancing member utilizing a
pressing force exerted when the holder is pressed into the
housing by the lancing member.

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4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the lancing member
is held by a supporting member including a sheath, and

wherein in the first step, the sheath is slidably fitted to an end of the housing, the lancing member being pressed against the holder to be pushed into the housing.

- 5 5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the supporting member holds an analyzer, and

wherein in the first step, the analyzer is attached to the lancing device when the lancing member is held by the holder.

- 10 6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the rotating means comprises a motor, and wherein in the second step, the lancing member is rotated by driving force of the motor.

7. A lancing device comprising:

- 15 a holder for holding a lancing member;

a moving mechanism for advancing the holder in a predetermined direction; and

- rotating means for rotating the lancing member when the lancing member is about to be held by the holder or after the lancing member is held by the holder.
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8. The lancing device according to claim 7, wherein the holder holds the lancing member in a manner such that the holder and the lancing member are not rotatable relative to each other,

- 25 wherein the rotating means rotates the holder together with the lancing member.

9. The lancing device according to claim 8, wherein the rotating means comprises a cam mechanism for rotating the holder when the holder retracts in a direction opposite to the predetermined direction.

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10. The lancing device according to claim 9, further comprising a cylindrical housing that contains the holder therein and includes a tip end formed with an opening,

10 wherein the cam mechanism includes a first groove which is provided at one of the housing and the holder and is inclined relative to a longitudinal axis of the housing, and also includes a protrusion which is provided at the other one of the housing and the holder and is fitted in the first groove.

15 11. The lancing device according to claim 10, wherein the cam mechanism further includes a second groove connected to the first groove and extending in parallel to the axis of the housing, and

20 wherein the protrusion passes through the second groove when the holder advances.

12. The lancing device according to claim 8, wherein the rotating means comprises a motor and a member for transmitting rotating force of the motor to the holder.

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13. The lancing device according to claim 7, further comprising a holding portion for removably holding an analyzer used for

analyzing a sample taken by piercing process.

14. The lancing device according to claim 13, further comprising a control circuit for analyzing the sample using
5 the analyzer.

15. A cam mechanism comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a movable member contained in the housing for moving
10 reciprocally in first and second directions parallel to a longitudinal axis of the housing;

a first groove inclined relative to the axis of the housing and a second groove connected to the first groove and extending linearly in parallel to the axis of the housing, the first
15 and the second grooves being provided at one of the housing and the movable member; and

a protrusion provided at the other one of the housing and the movable member, the protrusion extending into the first groove and the second groove;

20 wherein the protrusion moves in the first groove when the movable member moves in the first direction, and moves in the second groove when the movable member moves in the second direction.